



News Release

Cooperating with Colorado Department of Agriculture
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USDA/NASS RELEASES JUNE ACREAGE REPORT

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Moist conditions combined with moderate temperatures delayed crop progress this spring according to the USDA National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) Colorado Field Office. Water restrictions for irrigation remain in effect for many prime growing areas in the state and directly influenced planting decisions once again this year. Actual harvested acreage will depend in large part on the amount of moisture received during the coming months. Colorado **corn** producers intend to harvest 1,000,000 acres for grain from the 1,150,000 acres planted in 2009. This is a decrease of 7 percent from last year's harvested grain acreage and an 8 percent decrease in planted acreage for all purposes. **Sorghum** plantings, at 210,000 acres, decreased 9 percent from the previous year but acreage expected to be harvested for grain, at 140,000, decreased 7 percent as growers expect to harvest a larger proportion of planted acres for grain. **Winter wheat** producers expect to harvest 2,400,000 acres from the revised 2,600,000 acres planted in the fall of 2008. This is 500,000 acres more than last year's harvested area. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 30,000 acres, are 10,000 acres less than a year ago. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 29,000 acres, down from 36,000 last year. **Oat** seedings are up 44% from last year to 65,000 acres and producers plan to harvest 10,000 acres for grain, up from 7,000 acres in 2008. **Barley** planted area, at 80,000 acres, is unchanged from last year's acreage. Expected harvested acres, at 78,000, are 8 percent above 2008. **Proso millet** seedings are expected to total 200,000 acres this year, down 26 percent from 2008. **All hay** area to be harvested is expected to increase 30,000 acres from a year ago to 1,600,000 acres. **Alfalfa hay** acreage is expected to increase 20,000 from last year to 840,000 acres. **All other hay** acreage harvested is expected to increase 10,000 acres to 760,000 acres. **Sugarbeet** plantings increased 2,500 acres from last year to 36,300 acres. The expected harvested area, at 36,200 acres, is 7,600 acres above last year. Acres planted to **dry beans**, at 50,000, are up 4 percent from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 46,000. **All sunflower** planted area, at 95,000 acres, is 99,000 acres below last year and the smallest area in sunflowers since 1997. Oil type varieties totaled 80,000 acres, down 90,000 while non-oil type varieties are set at 15,000 acres, down 9,000. **Summer potatoes** showed a 9 percent decline in planted acres to 4,000 with the expected harvested acreage set at 3,800 acres.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

The 2009 corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 87.0 million acres, up 1 percent from last year but 7 percent lower than 2007. This is the second largest acreage since 1946, behind 2007. Growers expect to harvest 80.1 million acres for grain, up 2 percent from last year. Farmers responding to the survey indicated that 97 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted at the time of the interview compared with the 10-year average of 98 percent.

The 2009 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 43.4 million acres, down 6 percent from 2008 but up 1 percent from the previous estimate. States in the Corn Belt and Delta are all down from 2008, with Arkansas and Missouri down 600,000 and 450,000 acres, respectively. Acreage in Colorado, Oklahoma, and Texas is up a combined 1.15 million acres from 2008. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 34.8 million acres, down 12 percent from last year. Despite large increases in planted acres, harvested acres in Oklahoma and Texas are down 900,000 and 850,000, respectively, as both States have experienced below normal precipitation during the growing season.

Area planted to other spring wheat for 2009 is estimated at 13.8 million acres, down 3 percent from 2008. Grain area is expected to total 13.2 million acres, 2 percent below 2008. Planted acreage is above last year's level in Washington, unchanged in South Dakota, and lower in all other producing States. The largest acreage declines are in Minnesota, Montana, and North Dakota, each down 100,000 acres from last year. As of May 31, spring wheat planting progress was behind the 5-year average for Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, and North Dakota.

Area planted to sorghum in 2009 is estimated at 6.96 million acres, down 16 percent from 2008. Area to be harvested for grain is forecast at 5.97 million acres, down 18 percent from last year. Producers in Kansas planted 2.90 million acres, unchanged from last year, while Texas growers planted 2.60 million acres, down 25 percent from 2008.

Acreage seeded to oats for the 2009 crop year totaled 3.16 million acres, down 2 percent from the previous year and is the lowest on record. Growers expect to harvest 1.43 million acres for grain, up 2 percent from 2008 but is the second lowest on record. Area seeded to oats decreased or remained unchanged in 15 of the 31 estimating

States. The largest decrease in seeded acreage occurred in Texas, where producers seeded 100,000 fewer acres than a year ago.

Proso millet planted area for 2009 totaled 405,000 acres, down 22 percent from last year's total of 520,000 acres. An increase in proso millet planted area in South Dakota was more than offset by decreases in Colorado and Nebraska.

Producers intend to harvest 60.2 million acres of all hay in 2009, up slightly from 2008. Expected harvested area of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, at 21.0 million acres, is up 2,000 acres from 2008. From the Great Plains and west, harvested area of alfalfa is expected to increase or remain unchanged from last year in all States except New Mexico, North Dakota, and Oklahoma. However, the increases out west are nearly offset by scattered declines throughout the eastern U.S. The largest decreases are expected in Iowa, Minnesota, and North Dakota, all down 100,000 acres or more from last year. Expected area for harvest of all other types of hay totals 39.2 million acres, up slightly from 2008. Compared with last year, area harvested for all other types of hay is expected to increase by 100,000 acres or more in Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas. However, large decreases of 200,000 acres or more are expected in Kentucky, Missouri, and North Dakota.

The 2009 soybean planted area is estimated at 77.5 million acres, up 2 percent from 2008. Planted area increased from last year in 22 out of 31 States, and is the largest U.S. planted acreage on record. Area for harvest is forecast at 76.5 million acres, up 3 percent from 2008, and will also be the largest on record, if realized.

Growers in the summer producing States planted an estimated 44,000 acres of potatoes this year, down 6 percent from last year and 13 percent below 2007. Harvested area is forecast at 42,500 acres, 5 percent lower than 2008 and down 12 percent from 2007. The reduction in planted and harvested area is due primarily to acreage declines in Texas and the removal of Alabama from the estimating program beginning this year.